

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Please cancel claims 1-27 and add new claims 28-39. The new claims substantially reflect the subject matter of canceled claims 1-27, but are amended in accordance with suggestions made by the Examiner during telephonic interviews and informal facsimile and email exchanges with applicant. In particular, new claim 28 (which corresponds to canceled claim 1) is amended to clarify the screening procedure; and claim 32 (which corresponds to canceled claim 11) and claim 38 (which corresponds to canceled claim 20) are amended to be consistent with claim 28. The claims currently under consideration are directed to a region on chromosome arm 4p. Claims 28-39 are pending.

Applicants gratefully thank Examiner Goldberg for her extraordinary patience and courtesy in holding a series of informal telephonic interviews and facsimile and email exchanges (*e.g.*, on June 22, June 28, June 29, July 1, July 2, July 3 and July 6, 2004) with the undersigned.

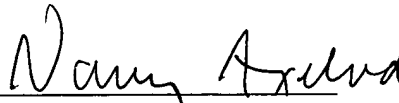
Applicant's understanding, based on the informal exchanges with the Examiner as noted above, is that the current (new) claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants continue to maintain that the rejections of the claims presented in the Office Action of March 31, 2004, under 35 USC §112, are unwarranted, for the reasons of record. Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended according to the suggestions of the Examiner. It is believed that the amended claims further obviate the rejections in the Office Action of March 31, 2004.

It is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. Should any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone discussion, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

A fee was paid for the first month extension of time with the Reply filed on June 3, 2004. Accordingly, a fee for the second month extension of time (\$420 - \$110 = \$310) is attached. Should any additional fee be deemed due, please charge such fee to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261 and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 6, 2004



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